

PATENT
450100-03407**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Fumiyoshi ABE et al.

Serial No.: 09/923,152

Filed: August 6, 2001

For: INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND
METHOD, INFORMATION READING APPARATUS
AND METHOD, MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT, AND
RECORDING MEDIUM

Examiner: Shibru, Helen

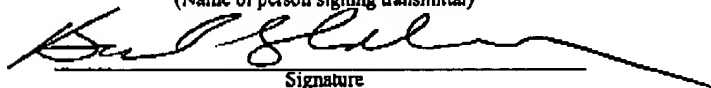
Art Unit: 2621

Notice of Allowance: October 3, 2006

Confirmation No.: 1512

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OCT 27 2006

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via
facsimile to (571) 273-8300, PTO Central Fax Office
(Name of person signing transmittal)
Signature

October 27, 2006

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCEMail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed October 3, 2006. To the extent the Examiner's

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Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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